IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Atty. Docket No. 067242/0107

1612

In re application of

Fumihiko Watanabe et al.

Serial No.: 09/120,383

Filed: July 22, 1998

SULFONATED AMINO ACID DERIVATIVES AND METALLOPROTEINASE For:

INHIBITORS CONTAINING THE SAME

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Group Art Unit:

Examiner: Unknown

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

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Preliminary to the examination of the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 1-25 in their entirety without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof.

Please add the following new claims:

--26. A compound of the formula I:





